

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, just to briefly explain the majority action, what Senator George has indicated to you is quite correct that there are matching federal funds. It is a historical site. It was true at one point that this as well as some other projects were on the list of projects that the majority of the Committee felt should be done. The other day when we met to review the amendments that was offered this morning, I suspect some of us who did not support this additional amount, I guess it's pure and simple that it was another \$40,000 and we already are in some difficulties with the level of appropriation potential and still stay within existing rates. I could not argue and would not attempt to argue that this is not an important project because it is. I think it does have probably some additional cost beyond this before it's completion, Senator George. In future years which also probably ought to be a consideration but again the lack of majority vote in the Committee I think was solely one of not against this project but we had just about recommended to you all if not more of general fund expenditure than we could justify this year. It may well be that there would be other, incidentally this kind of an improvement does not have entry fees or those kind of access to cash funds, but it has to be done with general fund if it is to be done. It may well be that there are other projects that are on the approved list that ought to come out and this one be put in its place. That's a possible alternative that maybe also ought to be considered.

PRESIDENT: Senator Savage.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I supported Senator George's proposal in the Committee and I will continue to support it on the basis that I think it's a worthwhile project and it's an ongoing. It has been going on up there for the last ten, twelve, fifteen years that I know of. I covered it as a reporter for the World Herald when I was still there. That was over eight years ago and it's a big attraction along with the game refuge up there. It's another place for people to visit and they do need the money and I will support and urge the Legislature to support the George amendment.

PRESIDENT: Do you want to close, Senator George?

SENATOR GEORGE: I would just like to repeat, Mr. President, that as Senator Savage just pointed out, it has been an ongoing program and we certainly don't want to interrupt that now for one year and we certainly don't want to lose the \$40,000 matching funds, therefore I urge you to restore this amendment into the budget. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Record your vote. Have you voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 15 ayes, 18 nays on the adoption of Senator George's amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The amendment fails. Senator Warner. No further amendments.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I move the bill be advanced.